

# Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

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*At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.*

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***Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.***

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Prelude

Matins

J. E. Newell

Greeting

\*Call to Worship

One: For God alone my soul waits in silence;

**Many: From God comes my salvation; truly, my hope is in God.**

One: God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold,

**Many: I shall not be shaken.**

One: In God is my safety and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

**Many: Trust in God at all times, O people, pour out your hearts before God, who is our refuge.**

\*Hymn

“To God Be the Glory”

UMH 98

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God;  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

\*Praise Songs

**Ayeyi Wura (You Own Our Praise)**

A-ye-yi Wurae' ----A-ye-yi Wurae'  
Ye yi W'ayε Na ye Ma Wo so!

You own our praise! You own our praise!  
We praise you, Lord, and we lift you high!

**I Have Joy in My Heart**

I have joy in my heart, deep, deep down in my heart...  
Jesus gave to me, and no one can destroy it.  
I have joy in my heart; deep, deep down in my heart...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**Loving God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, that we may bring good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the oppressed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Conversation

Announcement

Prayers of the People, & the Lord's Prayer

"Spirit of the Living God"

UMH 393

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Offering

Offertory Amman Mma – Children of the World

Children of the world, children of the world,  
praise the Lord, for He is a mighty King.

Children of the world, children of the world,  
praise the Lord, for He is a mighty King.

He has conquered death. When He speaks, everything remains still.  
He is a conqueror. We will worship Him always.

Children of the world, children of the world,  
praise the Lord, for he is a mighty King.

Children of the world, go! We will sing for Him.  
We will shout praises unto Him. We will magnify Him always.  
We will give him all the glory and honor.

\*Doxology

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Passing of Peace

“Shalom”

Mensah Essilfie

God’s peace be unto you,  
We wish you Shalom!  
The peace of God which transcends all  
understanding be with you forevermore.

\*Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-20

Anthem

Lord of the Dance

Sydney Carter 1915-2004

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

**Response:**

Dance, then wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.  
And I’ll lead you all wherever you may be,  
and I’ll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
they came to me and the dance went on. **R**

I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame,  
the holy people said it was a shame;  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;  
and they left me there on a cross to die. **R**

I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;  
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;  
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the dance and I still go on. **R**

They cut me down and I leapt up high,  
I am the life that I never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. **R**

## Message

\*Hymn

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

UMH 344

Lord, you have come to the lakeshore  
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;  
you only asked me to follow humbly.  
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

You know so well my possessions;  
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;  
you will find there my nets and labor.  
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

You need my hands, full of caring  
through my labors to give others rest,  
and constant love that keep on loving.  
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

You, who have fished other oceans,  
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,  
my loving friend, as thus you call me.  
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;  
by your side I will seek other seas.

\*Benediction

Postlude

Jubilate

Ernest H. Sheppard

Worship Leaders: Judith Barton, Desmond Cheetham, David Dagle, Ronna Davis, Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, Debbie O’Driscoll, David Potts, Jennifer Quansah, Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 62 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.  
Common Prayer – *Book of Common Worship*, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993, p. 207. ALT.  
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